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**ALSO PRESENT:**

**Antone White  
Carla Patton  
Judge Christopher Brown**

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I N D E X

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| AGENDA ITEMS  | PAGE |
|---|------|
| Approval of Minutes of Meetings of Franklin County Board of Elections of 11-16-20, 11-17-20, 11-18-20, 11-24-20, and 12-10-20 | 4    |
| Fill Vacancy of BOE Director and swearing in  | 6/10 |
| TMH Contract Extension  | 12   |
| TMCS Contract Extension   | 13   |
| Audit Amendment of the 11-3-20 General Election Results   | 15   |
| 2% Raise  | 18   |
| Adjournment   | 20   |

- - -

Monday Afternoon Session  
January 4, 2021  
3:07 p.m.

- - -

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: I believe we  
have a quorum, but I'll go ahead and take roll.

Kim Marinello.

MEMBER MARINELLO: Here.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Mike Sexton.

MEMBER SEXTON: Here.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Doug  
Preisse.

CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Here.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And Brad  
Sinnott.

MEMBER SINNOTT: Here.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: We do have a  
quorum.

The first item on the agenda --

And maybe I should make certain.

Please identify yourself so that the court reporter  
can take proper notes.

The first item on the agenda is the  
approval of minutes from the November 16th,  
November 17th, November 18th, November 24th, and  
the December 10th meetings of the Franklin County

1 Board of Elections. I believe Antone sent out  
2 minutes. If there aren't any corrections,  
3 additions, or deletions, I'd entertain a motion to  
4 accept those minutes.

5 MEMBER MARINELLO: Mr. Chairman, I  
6 move that the Board approve the minutes of the  
7 November 16th, November 17th, November 18th,  
8 November 24th, 2020 special meetings, and the  
9 December 10th, 2020 regular meeting of the Franklin  
10 County Board of Elections.

11 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: This is Doug  
12 Preisse. I second.

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been  
14 properly moved and seconded. I will take roll.  
15 Kim Marinello.

16 MEMBER MARINELLO: Yes.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Mike Sexton.

18 MEMBER SEXTON: Yes.

19 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Doug  
20 Preisse.

21 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Yes.

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And Brad  
23 Sinnott.

24 MEMBER SINNOTT: Yes.

25 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Motion

1 carries.

2 The next item on the agenda is to  
3 fill the vacancy for the Board of Elections  
4 Director that was created with the leaving of  
5 Director Ed Leonard.

6 I'm going to turn it over to Mike  
7 Sexton for any comments and recommendations for a  
8 person to fill the directorship.

9 MEMBER SEXTON: Thank you, Deputy  
10 Director Payne. And I'm excited today to have the  
11 opportunity to nominate Mr. Antone White as our  
12 next director. You know, for the last two years  
13 he's been working with us as our executive  
14 assistant where he has assisted both the Director  
15 and Deputy Director with day-to-day operations,  
16 administrative functions, and special projects  
17 during the 2020 presidential election and before  
18 that. And he just has a wide range of background  
19 in public service going back to working for nearly  
20 ten years for Mary Ellen O'Shaughnessy as our  
21 Franklin County Clerk of Courts as director of the  
22 legal operations for the state's busiest clerk's  
23 office in Ohio. He's also served Mayor Michael  
24 Coleman and his administration as a specialist and  
25 a public safety spokesperson. And, you know, he's

1 a Franklin County person. He was born here, he  
2 went to Columbus Public Schools, and graduated with  
3 bachelor of arts from The Ohio State University and  
4 from Franklin University. I just feel he has the  
5 leadership, administrative and supervisory skills  
6 to make a great director for our board.

7 And I would, therefore, move that  
8 the Board hire Antone White as Director of Franklin  
9 County Board of Elections beginning January 4th,  
10 2021, at a compensation rate of \$66.39 per hour.

11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Any  
12 comments, questions?

13 DIRECTOR PREISSE: Does that require  
14 a second?

15 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It does.

16 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: This is Doug  
17 Preisse. I will happily second it with the  
18 observation of an optimistic future. Antone, you  
19 and David work close and well together. Antone I  
20 think long ago earned the respect and support of  
21 the Board. At least that's my perspective. So  
22 Michael, thank you for that report.

23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been  
24 properly moved and seconded to hire Antone White as  
25 the Director of the Franklin County Board of

1 Elections. I will take roll.

2 Kim Marinello.

3 MEMBER MARINELLO: Yes.

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Mike Sexton.

5 MEMBER SEXTON: Yes.

6 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Doug

7 Preisse.

8 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Yes.

9 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And Brad

10 Sinnott.

11 MEMBER SINNOTT: Yes.

12 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Fantastic.

13 Congratulations, Antone.

14 MEMBER MARINELLO: Congratulations,

15 Antone.

16 MR. WHITE: Thank you.

17 MS. FUHRMANN: Congratulations,

18 Tone.

19 MR. WHITE: Thank you.

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: I, for one,

21 look forward to working with Antone. And I know

22 Chairman Sexton had a lot of good applicants to

23 choose from, and none better than Antone White. So

24 looking forward to it.

25 Antone, do you want to say any

1 words?

2 MR. WHITE: Well, I just want to  
3 thank the Board for their vote today and for this  
4 appointment. I want to thank our former director,  
5 Ed Leonard, who I see is on this Zoom call, for his  
6 leadership and all he's done for this office and  
7 the Board. I want to thank Ms. Mel Fuhrmann, our  
8 outgoing interim director, for her leadership. And  
9 really I just want to say thank you to the staff  
10 and let the staff know that I'm ready to roll up my  
11 sleeves and get to work. We've got a lot of work  
12 to do, and I'm ready to hit the ground running. So  
13 I look forward to it. Thank you.

14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Fantastic.

15 I think what remains is you need to  
16 take an oath of office. And I believe we have  
17 Judge Chris Brown along with us here to administer  
18 the oath.

19 Are you there, Judge Brown?

20 JUDGE BROWN: I'm here. Can you  
21 hear me?

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: We can.

23 JUDGE BROWN: All right. Thank you  
24 for having me. It's an honor and a privilege to  
25 administer the oath to the new incoming Director of

1 the Board of Elections.

2 Mr. White, if you could please raise  
3 your right hand and repeat after me.

4 I, Antone White, --

5 MR. WHITE: I, Antone White, --

6 JUDGE BROWN: -- do solemnly swear  
7 or affirm --

8 MR. WHITE: -- do solemnly swear or  
9 affirm --

10 JUDGE BROWN: -- that I will support  
11 the Constitutions of the United States and the  
12 State of Ohio, --

13 MR. WHITE: -- that I will support  
14 the Constitutions of the United States and the  
15 State of Ohio, --

16 JUDGE BROWN: -- I will faithfully  
17 perform all the duties of Director of the Board of  
18 Elections of Franklin County, --

19 MR. WHITE: -- I will faithfully  
20 perform the duties of the Board of Elections  
21 Director for Franklin County, --

22 JUDGE BROWN: -- to the best of my  
23 ability.

24 MR. WHITE: -- to the best of my  
25 ability.

1 JUDGE BROWN: I will enforce the  
2 election laws --

3 MR. WHITE: I will enforce the  
4 election laws --

5 JUDGE BROWN: -- and I will preserve  
6 and keep all records, documents, and other  
7 property --

8 MR. WHITE: -- and I will preserve  
9 and keep all records, documents, and other  
10 property --

11 JUDGE BROWN: -- pertaining to the  
12 conduct of elections --

13 MR. WHITE: -- pertaining to the  
14 conduct of elections --

15 JUDGE BROWN: -- placed in my  
16 custody.

17 MR. WHITE: -- based on my custody.

18 JUDGE BROWN: It says "placed in my  
19 custody."

20 MR. WHITE: Excuse me.

21 -- placed in my custody.

22 Sorry.

23 JUDGE BROWN: I don't want a John  
24 Roberts/Barack Obama situation here, so --

25 Congratulations, Director White.

1 I'm sure that the Board is in good hands under your  
2 leadership and I wish you the best of luck. Thank  
3 you for inviting me. It's been an honor to be able  
4 to swear you in.

5 DIRECTOR WHITE: Thank you, Judge  
6 Brown.

7 JUDGE BROWN: Thank you everyone.

8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: This is  
9 David Payne again.

10 The next item on the agenda is the  
11 TMH contract extension. And this is for our  
12 project manager, Jo Campbell, as we transition from  
13 our Integrity voter system to Tenex. She has done  
14 a fantastic job. This is the same rate of pay that  
15 we have been paying her. And I would just like to  
16 ask the Board for an extension of Jo Campbell's  
17 contract with us through TMH.

18 MEMBER SINNOTT: This is Sinnott. I  
19 think that's in order.

20 I move that the Board authorize the  
21 Director and Deputy Director to enter into a  
22 contract with TMH Solutions to continue its service  
23 as project manager with the Tenex migration at the  
24 hourly rate of \$115, with hours not to exceed 1,040  
25 and the total amount of the contract not to exceed

1 \$119,600, the terms of the contract to run from  
2 January 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021.

3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Thank you,  
4 Board Member Sinnott.

5 Is there a second to that motion?

6 MEMBER SEXTON: Mr. Chairman,  
7 Michael Sexton. I will second the motion.

8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been  
9 properly moved and seconded. I will take roll.

10 Kim Marinello.

11 MEMBER MARINELLO: Yes.

12 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Mike Sexton.

13 MEMBER SEXTON: Yes.

14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Doug  
15 Preisse.

16 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Yes.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And Brad  
18 Sinnott.

19 MEMBER SINNOTT: Yes.

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: The motion  
21 carries.

22 The next item on the agenda is the  
23 the TMCS contract extension. And this is our  
24 Integrity system that we presently have, and we are  
25 working with the Secretary of State and with Tenex

1 and with Integrity to migrate over to the Tenex  
2 system; but until we completely migrate over to the  
3 Tenex voter registration system, we need to  
4 continue our contract with Integrity. And this  
5 is -- we can cancel this contract by either party  
6 giving a 90-day notice. So unless there are any  
7 questions about our relationship with EMCS or the  
8 Integrity system, I would entertain a motion to  
9 authorize the extension of this contract.

10 MEMBER SEXTON: Mr. Chairman,  
11 Michael Sexton. I move the Board authorize the  
12 now-Director and Deputy Director to enter into a  
13 contract extension with Election Management  
14 Consulting Services in the amount of \$68,413.49 for  
15 continued support on the Integrity system in  
16 calendar year 2021.

17 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: This is Doug  
18 Preisse. Second the motion.

19 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been  
20 properly moved and seconded to extend the EMCS  
21 contract. I'll take roll.

22 Kim Marinello.

23 MEMBER MARINELLO: Yes.

24 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Mike Sexton.

25 MEMBER SEXTON: Yes.

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Doug  
2 Preisse.

3 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Yes.

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And Brad  
5 Sinnott.

6 MEMBER SINNOTT: Yes.

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Motion  
8 carries.

9 The next item on the agenda is the  
10 audit of the November 3rd, 2020 general election  
11 results. And this is an amendment. I believe I'm  
12 calling on Carla Patton who is in Aspen or Vail,  
13 Colorado or some luxurious ski resort.

14 Are you there, Carla?

15 MS. PATTON: I am here. Can you  
16 hear me?

17 MEMBER MARINELLO: I hear you good.

18 MS. PATTON: Okay. Good.

19 So beginning the week of  
20 December 14th we conducted an audit of the results  
21 from the November 2020 general election. That was  
22 five -- Five percent was the requirement. We did a  
23 little over five percent. We hand counted over  
24 35,500 ballots. And the results have been provided  
25 to you as amended results with the original results

1 showing in black and the new amended results are  
2 showing in red with the original struck through.

3 So overall the results of the audit  
4 showed that we had a net gain of one ballot that  
5 was found in the presidential race. We had one  
6 additional vote to Biden and then we had a  
7 write-in. So a certified candidate Kacie Wells,  
8 Rachel Wells picked up one vote.

9 In the justice race, full term  
10 commencing January 1, 2021, Kennedy picked up three  
11 votes and John O'Donnell picked up three votes and  
12 under votes went down five votes. So it would be  
13 an issue of, one, you have the additional ballot  
14 that was cast, and then, two, pencil markings on  
15 the ballots to mark the candidates were most likely  
16 not seen by the machine and originally counted as  
17 an under vote. So that's where the difference of  
18 those votes would come from.

19 In the Court of Appeals judge race,  
20 full term commencing 2-9, Michael Mentel picked up  
21 two votes, Colleen O'Donnell picked up three votes,  
22 and the under votes were reduced by four votes.  
23 Again, similar to the justice race, under votes  
24 were counted where they should have actually been  
25 counted for a candidate plus you have the one

1 additional ballot that was found to make up that  
2 additional vote.

3 With that, we recommend that you  
4 certify the results as appears in the amended  
5 results for those three races.

6 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Are there  
7 any questions for Carla?

8 If not, I'd entertain a motion to  
9 accept the amended audit report.

10 MEMBER MARINELLO: Mr. Chairman, I  
11 move the Board amend and declare as final the  
12 official canvass of the votes cast at the  
13 November 3, 2020 general election. This is Kim  
14 Marinello.

15 MR. PREISSE: And this is Doug  
16 Preisse. Second the motion.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: I'll take  
18 roll. All those in favor of the motion signify by  
19 saying aye.

20 Kim Marinello.

21 MEMBER MARINELLO: Yes. Aye.

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Mike Sexton.

23 MEMBER SEXTON: Yes.

24 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Doug

25 Preisse.

1 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Yes.

2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And Brad  
3 Sinnott.

4 MEMBER SINNOTT: Yes.

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Motion  
6 carries.

7 The next and final item on the  
8 agenda is a two percent raise. This is -- was  
9 approved in December by the County Commissioners  
10 for all non-bargaining employees, which would  
11 include if approved by the Board here the staff of  
12 the Franklin County Board of Elections, all  
13 full-time employees. Again, it's a two percent  
14 raise. I think you were given a chart that shows  
15 what all of our full-time employees make now and  
16 what they would make with a two percent raise.

17 So unless there are any questions,  
18 I'd entertain a motion to accept -- or approve,  
19 rather, the two percent pay increase for all  
20 full-time BOE staff.

21 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: David, this is  
22 Doug. I'm looking at this chart. What's 2021 new  
23 overtime mean?

24 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: So that  
25 would be if there are any overtime hours. I do see

1 that -- David Payne. I do not get paid for  
2 overtime. So that wouldn't count for myself or  
3 Antone White. But other folks, that is the hourly  
4 rate that they would make for working overtime. We  
5 try to limit overtime hours, obviously, when we  
6 can. During the presidential election that we just  
7 went through there was obviously a lot of overtime,  
8 but we budget for that and it has been accounted  
9 for when we deal with the Secretary of -- or rather  
10 the County Commissions in their budget.

11 MR. PREISSE: Thank you.

12 MEMBER SINNOTT: This is Sinnott.  
13 If no Board member has another question, I move  
14 that the Board approve a two percent pay increase  
15 to all full-time Board of Elections staff for  
16 calendar year 2021.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Is there a  
18 second?

19 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Doug Preisse.  
20 Second.

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: I will take  
22 roll.

23 Kim Marinello.

24 MEMBER MARINELLO: Yes.

25 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Mike Sexton.

1 MEMBER SEXTON: Yes.

2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Doug

3 Preisse.

4 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Yes.

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And Brad

6 Sinnott.

7 MEMBER SINNOTT: Yes.

8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Motion

9 carries.

10 And on behalf of the Board, thank  
11 you very much. I think that's the last item on the  
12 agenda unless there are any other items that the  
13 Board members would like to bring up. If not, I  
14 would entertain a motion to adjourn.

15 MEMBER SINNOTT: This is Sinnott. I  
16 move to adjourn.

17 MEMBER MARINELLO: This is Kim  
18 Marinello. I second.

19 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: I'll take  
20 roll.

21 Kim Marinello.

22 MEMBER MARINELLO: Yes.

23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Mike Sexton.

24 MEMBER SEXTON: Yes.

25 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Doug

1 Preisse.

2 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Yes.

3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And Brad

4 Sinnott.

5 MEMBER SINNOTT: Yes.

6 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: We are

7 adjourned.

8 - - -

9 Thereupon, the proceedings were

10 adjourned at approximately 3:25 p.m.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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THE STATE OF OHIO:

SS:

COUNTY OF FRANKLIN:

I, Carla D. Castle, a Professional Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, correct, and complete written transcript of the proceedings in this matter;

That the foregoing was taken by me stenographically and transcribed by me with computer-aided transcription;

That the foregoing occurred at the aforementioned time and place;

That I am not an attorney for or relative of any of the parties and have no interest whatsoever in the event of this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal of office at Columbus, Ohio, this 28th day of January, 2021.

/s/Carla D. Castle  
Notary Public, State of Ohio

My Commission Expires: September 29, 2021.

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